

NORTH DAKOTA STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL
QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

October 20,2021
10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., CST

Members Present: Cynthia Goulet, Trevor Vannett, Renee Speidel-Wetzsteon, Terry Peterson, Russ Cusack, Jason Sutheimer, Cathy Quintane, Trampes Brown, Landis Larson, Jacey Enget, Shannon Cook, Alicia Halle

Members Absent: Jodi Webb, Damian Schlenger, Matthew McCleary, Tina Bay, Bruce Murry, Brandy Johnson

Call to Order: Renee Speidel-Wetzsteon called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

Action: A motion to amend and accept the agenda was made by Jacey Enget and seconded by Trevor Vannett. Motion carried.

Action: A motion to approve the July 2021 minutes was made by Trevor Vannett and seconded by Landis Larson. Motion carried.

DVR Regional I Update – Aimee Walter

Continued to serve clients throughout the pandemic. Region 1 met all their goals regarding, Pre-ETS, employment services, applications, IPEs, and business service contacts. To date approximately 10 applications and 4 successful closures. Pre-ETS contracts in all but one school. Counselors have been working hard at getting students into services. To date have taken approximately 20 student applications the region also works with several schools in Montana. Continue to have quite a few Human Service Center referrals from departments serving youth and adults. Many available jobs in the area.

DVR Region VI Update – Jennifer Moldenhauer

Jamestown has four counselors serving a nine-county region with 20 plus high schools. Three Pre ETS contracts to include a new contract with East Central. Counselors are back in the schools' face to face.

37 individuals successfully employed this year-average wage \$15.06/hr. and average hours 31 hours weekly. Number of successful closures was down from last year. More individuals needed a longer time with job coaching prior to closure; had individuals wait to start or continue employment due to COVID; and a shortage of community rehab providers who struggle to obtain staff. Applications up 6% this year. Working diligently to contact referral sources and develop new resources. Met Pre-ETS goal, vision goals, and surpassed business contact goals.

Partnerships:

- Expanding networking with businesses and referral sources.
- Strong relationship with Human Service Center by being part of the internship rotation for developing counselors. Hosted two who both gave positive feedback in learning about VR services.
- Involved in planning Health Technology and Trades Career Fair. Last event had about a thousand students grades 9-12 with 25 schools attending.
- Participating in Great Plains Housing events. Working with Freedom Resource Center, Job Service, and the Chamber to plan workshops for the spring.

SILC Update - Russ Cusack

SILC to meet November 4th and 5th with options for members to meet virtually or in-person. The meeting is being held at the Sleep Inn, Minot North Dakota. The agenda includes a discussion of development and publication of the SILC Annual Report. SILC members will have the opportunity to visit with staff who work for Independence Inc. SILC provided orientation and training to two new members: Jan Beddes, Mandan and Leon Dietrich, Bismarck. All Centers for Independent Living continue to respond to increased demand for transition and diversion from nursing home placement

Tribal Updates – no one was present to give updates

Election/Term of the Chair- Renee Speidel-Wetzsteon

Discussion regarding term of the Chair and Chair Elect. Under current bylaws the Chair and Chair Elect need to be elected annually, however no language around how many terms the Chair and Chair Elect can serve except thus standard two-3-year terms. The current bylaws read “The Chairperson shall be elected to serve a term of one year and the Chair Elect reads the same. The council recommended adding additional language to the Chair and Chair Elect bylaw section to read:

Current bylaws read: The chairperson shall be elected to serve a term of one year.

Adding: The election shall take place annually. The chair may serve up to three consecutive or non-consecutive years.

Current bylaws read: The chair elect shall be elected to serve a term of one year.

Adding: The election shall take place annually. The chair elect may serve up to three consecutive or non-consecutive years.

Action: SRC liaison will make this change and give public notice. SRC members will vote on it in January.

Fargo Mayors Committee-Tammy Desautel

Presented their process to disseminate funds from the parking fees when they received the funding directly. A copy of the application they used was distributed to the Council.

Working Lunch/Traveling Meetings- Renee Speidel-Wetzsteon

The topics of working lunches and traveling meetings was tabled since Bruce Murry brought the topic forward and was not present at the meeting.

Membership/Public Relations Committee -Renee Speidel-Wetzsteon, Chair

Recommend the language changes regarding the bylaws be posted and voted on at the next meeting. Need to replace Marshall Longie as a council representative. as he is no longer with the American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Services. (AIVS). Have 16 members-need more with disabilities to meet the 51%

Action: Cathy Quintane and Trampes Brown will help with recruiting

Planning/Evaluation Committee – Terry Peterson, Chair

Reviewed client participation policy. Consumer satisfaction survey-satisfaction has increased overall. Discussion of CAP awareness and the survey. Recommended changes to the Client Financial Participation Policy and requested to review additional forms related to the policy at the next meeting. Need to replace Marshall on the resource committee as he is no longer with AIVR.

Resource Committee – Jason Sutheimer, Chair

Reviewed employee engagement information. Need to find a resource committee chair as Jason's term will be up in June 2022. Chair will make a recommendation for whom at the next council meeting.

Employment Committee – Bruce Murry, Chair

Reviewed information shared by the Fargo Mayors Committee representative re: parking fees.

Action: SRC liaison will schedule a special meeting with the Employment Committee to develop processes re: the parking fees so the committee can bring forward recommendations at the next Council meeting.

Public Comment - There was no one present for public for comment.

Next meeting – January 19, 2022

10:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. CST via TEAMS and in person

Action: A motion was made by Trevor Vannett to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Jason Sutheimer. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at a 2:30 p.m.